

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete the first and second paragraphs of the specification.

Please add the following paragraphs after the subject heading beginning on page 1, line 3 and before the subject heading beginning on page 1, line 10 of the specification:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/614,472, filed July 11, 2000, and entitled "CATHETER WITH SIDE SHEATH," which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/325,996, filed June 4, 1999, and entitled "CATHETER WITH SIDE SHEATH," and which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, filed December 6, 1999, and entitled "CATHETER WITH ATTACHED FLEXIBLE SIDE SHEATH," the disclosures of which are herein incorporated by reference.

This application also is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,299, filed December 6, 1999, and entitled "CATHETER WITH ATTACHED FLEXIBLE SIDE SHEATH."

This application claims priority to said 09/614,472; 09/325,996; and 09/455,299 to the extent appropriate by law.